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Response Dated 09-01-04

a footswitch connector for coupling a simple footswitch to the dental generator unit, wherein the simple footswitch connector enables the first potentiometer.

[C5] (original) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 1, wherein the passive circuit element is a capacitor.

[C6] (original) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 5, wherein the capacitor is in the handpiece connector.

[C7] (original) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 5, wherein the capacitor is in the dental generator unit.

[C8] (original) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 4, further comprising:
a programmable logic control device for adjusting the frequency of the base resonance signal.

[C9] (original) An ultrasonic dental scaler comprising:
a dental generator unit comprising:
circuitry for producing a base resonance signal; and
a first potentiometer for adjusting a power level to the circuitry;
and
a footswitch connectable to the dental generator unit, wherein the footswitch, when engaged with the dental generator unit, selectively

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sends power to the dental generator unit, wherein the footswitch enables operation of the first potentiometer

[C10] (original) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 9, further comprising:

a second potentiometer within the footswitch;

wherein the first potentiometer is disabled when the footswitch is connected to the dental generator unit.

[C11] (original) The ultrasonic dental scaler of claim 9, wherein the footswitch comprises a pair of wires such that when the footswitch is engaged with the dental generator unit, the first potentiometer adjusts the power level to the circuitry.

[C12] (original) A footswitch for use with an ultrasonic dental scaler comprising:

circuitry for sending power to the ultrasonic dental scaler; and

a footswitch connector coupled between the footswitch and the ultrasonic dental scaler, wherein the footswitch connector connects the circuitry in the ultrasonic dental scaler to a first potentiometer.

[C13] (original) The footswitch of claim 12, wherein the first potentiometer is within the ultrasonic dental scaler.

[C14] (original) The footswitch of claim 12, wherein the first potentiometer is within the footswitch.

[C15] (original) A footswitch for use with an ultrasonic dental scaler comprising:

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circuitry for sending power to the ultrasonic dental scaler; and
a footswitch connector coupled between the footswitch and the
ultrasonic dental scaler, wherein the footswitch connector connects
the circuitry in the ultrasonic dental scaler to a first potentiometer in
the footswitch;
wherein a second potentiometer in the circuitry is disabled when the
footswitch is connected to the ultrasonic dental unit.

[C16] (amended) A method comprising:

pairing a handpiece, which operates at a resonant frequency with a
handpiece connector as a package, wherein the handpiece connector
comprises a passive circuit element, ~~which is associated with the~~ to
adjust a frequency of a base resonance signal to a second frequency
matching the resonant frequency of the handpiece;
taking an order from a customer for an ultrasonic dental scaler, the
order comprising a first request for a handpiece, wherein the
handpiece operates at the resonant frequency; and
sending the package with ~~the~~ a dental generator unit comprising
circuitry for producing the base resonance signal to the customer.

[C17] (original) The method of claim 16, further comprising:

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receiving a second request for a footswitch, wherein the second request specifies either a power level control footswitch or an on/off footswitch; and
sending the requested footswitch to the customer.

[C18] (amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising:

pairing a second handpiece, which operates at a third ~~second~~ resonant frequency with a second handpiece connector as a second package, wherein the second handpiece connector comprises a passive circuit element, which is associated with to adjust the frequency of the base resonance signal to a fourth frequency matching the third ~~second~~ resonant frequency of the handpiece;

receiving a third request for the second handpiece; and
sending the second package to the customer.

[C19] (amended) An ultrasonic dental scaler inventory with interchangeable handpieces and footswitches, comprising:

a plurality of essentially identical generator units comprising circuitry for producing a base resonance signal and a first potentiometer for adjusting the power level of the resonance signal;

a plurality of interchangeable handpieces and handpiece connectors including at least two different sets operable at different resonant

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frequencies, wherein each handpiece connector includes passive circuitry elements for matching the base resonance signal to the resonant frequency of the handpiece; and

first and second footswitches sets including on/off circuitry, wherein the first footswitch set enables the first potentiometer and the second footswitch set disables the first potentiometer and enables a second potentiometer in the second footswitch.